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About 50 men reported [redacted] for induction; four were rejected because of jail records. A jail record and extreme illness are the only reasons for rejection.

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[redacted] rejectees are automatically assigned to the labor services. According to an order issued in 1950 by Marshal Vassilevskiy, Minister of Defense, no deferments whatsoever were to be authorized. Men who need only a short time to complete their studies, or specialists practicing their profession, are not deferred.

3. [redacted] there are two induction periods annually. The first is at the beginning of July, the second at the end of September or the beginning of October. All classes register for the first time in the June which comes closest to their 19th birthday and are called to active service one year later. For this reason some draftees are 19 and others 20 when called to active service.

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[redacted] this is the only reason why some classes are called at the age of 20 instead of 19. Those draftees who have eight or more years of schooling are called to active service first and form the first increment of each class. After basic training they are sent to officer candidate schools for army or navy, or to NCO schools. Some men from this increment are assigned to the MVD and MGB after screening for intelligence, education and political reliability. The second call of each class in September or October is usually composed of draftees with less than eight years of schooling.

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4.

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- (a) The class of 1929 first registered in 1948; part of it was drafted in September 1949.
- (b) The class of 1931 was inducted in April 1951 and arrived in the Soviet Zone of Germany in May 1951.
- (c) The class of 1932 was to be inducted in September 1951.

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Arrival in the Soviet Zone of Germany

5. [redacted] arrived in Neustrelitz (5322N-1305E), Germany, on or about 13 Sep 50 with 700 to 800 men of the class of 1930. On or about 25 Sep 50 another shipment of 700 to 800 recruits of the 1930 class arrived at Neustrelitz.

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[redacted] left Alabino (5532N-3700E) on or about 6 Sep 50, travelling via Smolensk, Gomel, Kovel, Warsaw, Frankfurt/Oder (5221N-1433E) to Neustrelitz. Most of the journey was made at night.

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[redacted] it was impossible to know [redacted] exact locations. Moreover, it would have been unwise to ask questions about it since they might have caused suspicion and led to an investigation by the MVD. At Frankfurt/Oder a number of railroad cars which were occupied by recruits were detached [redacted] and other occupied cars were attached.

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6.

[redacted] some members of the 1930 class were stationed in Poland, Hungary, Austria and the USSR.

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7. The composition of my unit was as follows:

- (a) Four NCOs of the 1928 class
- (b) Four NCOs of the 1929 class
- (c) Four NCOs of the 1930 class
- (d) All privates [redacted] unit were replacements of the 1930 class

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Demobilization

8.

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(a) NCOs and privates of the class of 1926 were demobilized in the Soviet Zone of Germany in June 1950.

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(b) The class of 1927 was demobilized in summer 1951 [redacted] Privates were demobilized first, NCOs a few months later. The demobilization of this class was general for all assignments and all branches.

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(c) The classes of 1928 to 1931 are still on active service.

(d) Upon demobilization all NCOs were given a chance to try for admission to an officer candidate school. [redacted]

[redacted] All soldiers and NCOs were given opportunity to re-enlist if they wished.

9.

[redacted] after demobilization all soldiers are carried for 10 years as members of the reserve in category A. [redacted] the pertinent Voyenkomat have a plan to transfer to category B members who have completed 10 years in category A. [redacted] men who have been demobilized receive no refresher training.

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Leave

10. Army officers have 45 days annual leave plus travel time. My information is based on talks with other soldiers and on the fact that the commanding officer of the 495th Howitzer Battalion went to the USSR for this length of time in the summer of 1951. [redacted]

[redacted] Jet pilots are allowed 60 days annual leave plus travel time. NCOs may receive 10 to 20 days annual leave plus travel time at the discretion of the commanding officer. Enlisted men are not entitled to any leave, but a unit commander has the power to reward an enlisted man with a 15 day leave to the USSR for the following reasons:

(a) Attaining the classification of marksman. [redacted]

[redacted] a soldier is considered an expert gunner if he can hit all five targets: the regular target with a bull's-eye and four field targets, representing silhouettes of prone, crouching, kneeling and standing figures.

(b) Exemplary conduct, discipline, neatness and all-around outstanding soldiership.

(c) Outstanding marks in political indoctrination.

In case of illness or death an enlisted man may also receive 15 days leave. This kind of leave must be approved by various channels in the Soviet Zone and the USSR. It usually takes from one to two months after the emergency to obtain the approval. [redacted]

Reserve

11.

[redacted] Since the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, many reserve officers, especially pilots, have been recalled from the infantry, tank and technical services.

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Labor Service

12.

Since 1950, the graduates of FZO (Trade Apprentice Schools) and of all other schools and universities are drafted into the service. Deferments are no longer given. [redacted] the proportion of those drafted in 1950 and 1951 was greater than in previous years. [redacted] no young men were left in the villages and towns because all of them were in the army. [redacted] there are more females than males employed in the factories [redacted]

Soviet Female Personnel in Germany

13. In September 1951 [redacted] there was a large influx of Soviet uniformed female personnel into the Soviet Zone of Germany. Approximately 25 of them were assigned to the 2nd Artillery Brigade in Oranienburg on or about 6 Sep 51.

[redacted] These women, 20 to 25 years old, are volunteers and all hold the rank of private. They draw pay at civilian ratings and have officer status and privileges. They wear the regular Soviet enlisted women's uniform: blouse with shoulder boards and the insignia of the unit to which assigned, skirts, high leather boots, and a round hat with a red star. They are employed in various capacities: waitresses in officers' messes and casinos, typists in orderly rooms, and odd jobs in kitchens and hospitals. They are free to mix with officers and enlisted men but not allowed to associate with Germans. Rumors among the officers, enlisted men, and enlisted women [redacted] indicated that all German female employees were to be replaced by Soviet women. [redacted] a female MGB major [redacted] was assigned to Hq, 2nd Artillery Brigade and a female senior sergeant assigned as an interpreter to the same unit. The sergeant wore civilian clothes.

14. Female nurses serve in hospitals throughout the Soviet Zone. They enroll voluntarily in nurses schools in the USSR and after graduation are commissioned in the army as junior lieutenants or lieutenants. They wear the army uniform only for inspection and parades; otherwise they wear civilian clothes. Soldiers do not salute them. Approximately 20 nurses, 20 to 23 years old, were assigned to the 2nd Artillery Brigade. They were billeted in quarters for officer nurses and were allowed to associate freely with Soviet officers and enlisted men.

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